

International Conference on
**NUCLEAR
SECURITY**

**SHAPING
THE
FUTURE**

20–24 May 2024
Vienna, Austria

Ministerial Segment
20–21 May 2024

THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN SHAPING A MORE SECURE FUTURE FOR ALL

Ingrid Kirsten & Anthony Stott

Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP)

WORLD LEADERS

Presentation Outline



- Peaceful Uses and Sustainable Development
- Nuclear Security and Peaceful Uses
 - Challenges
 - Potential Solutions
- Civil Society role:
 - NGOs
 - Philanthropic organisations
- Towards a more secure future

Peaceful Uses and Sustainable Development

Nuclear science and technology contributes to the attainment of at least 9 SDGs
<https://www.iaea.org/about/overview/sustainable-development-goals>

“A global human society based on poverty for many and prosperity for a few, characterized by islands of wealth, surrounded by a sea of poverty is unsustainable”

Thabo Mbeki (2002)



Nuclear Security and Peaceful Uses



Negative perceptions about peaceful uses and risks related to nuclear and other radioactive material

Challenges

- Budget constraints and funding priorities
- Legislative and funding incentives
- Impact of security measures on radioactive source availability

Nuclear Security and Peaceful Uses

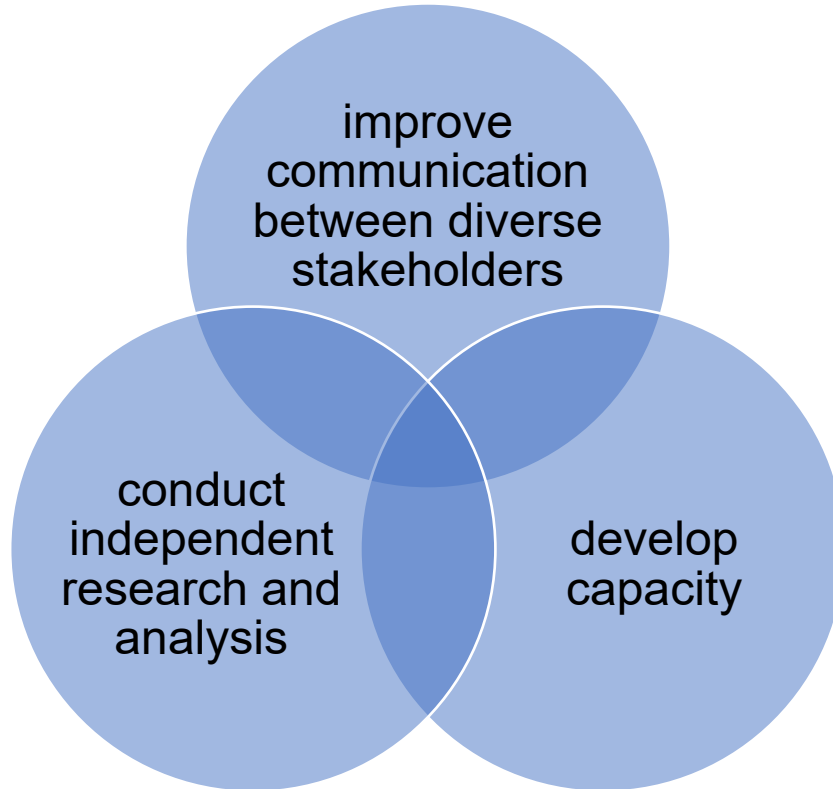
Multifaceted approach of innovative and collaborative solutions is required to reconcile objectives of nuclear security and the expansion of peaceful uses

- Promote the benefits of peaceful uses
- Conduct high-level outreach
- Promote balance between regulation of and access to peaceful uses
- Foster new partnerships for expanded access to peaceful uses

Potential
Solutions

Civil Society role - NGOs

NGOs play
a pivotal
role



to guide policy
making.

Civil Society role - Philanthropic organisations

The contribution of Peaceful Uses to sustainable development and to climate mitigation is not recognised by philanthropies



Several philanthropies support nuclear threat and risk reduction and securing nuclear and other radioactive materials
\$30 million (USD) in 2012

Climate philanthropies support the goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050
\$8 billion (USD) per annum

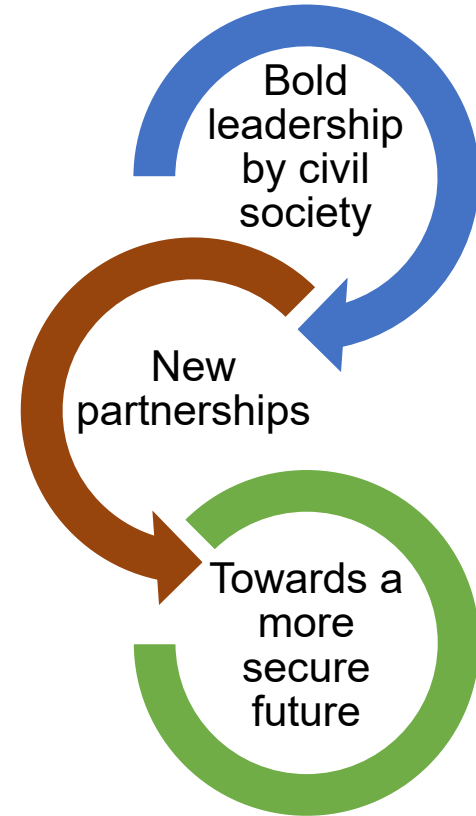
Philanthropies support sustainable development
\$10 billion (USD) in 2020 (OECD)

Towards a more secure future

Change the narrative from nuclear threat to nuclear necessity

Extend nuclear power to the Global South

Integrate civil society perspectives into global nuclear governance



Ms I. KIRSTEN

ikirsten@vcdnp.org; ikirsten@middlebury.edu

Mr. A.K. STOTT

astott@vcdnp.org; akstott@middlebury.edu

Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP)
Vienna, Austria